

ALABAMA BAPTIST HISTORICAL SOCIETY

MINUTES  
OF THE  
Twenty-sixth Annual Session  
OF THE  
NEW RIVER  
BAPTIST ASSOCIATION

HELD WITH  
Fayetteville Church  
FAYETTE, ALA.

October 10 and 14, 1896

*Moderator*, Elder G. W. GRAVLEE, Newtonville, Ala.

*Clerk*, Elder J. E. COX, Fayette, Ala.

*Treasurer*, W. B. MELTON, Fayette, Ala,

*Cor. Secretary*, A. M. NUCKOLS, Fayette, Ala.

The next session of this Association will be held with the  
Baptist Church at Bankston, Alabama, on  
Saturday before the second  
Sabbath in October  
1897

FAYETTE, ALA.  
R. J. SMITH, PRINTER  
1896

# The American Baptist Publication Society

A Distinctively Missionary Organization for Seventy Years

**BIBLE DISTRIBUTION**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOLS**  
**PLANTED**

**HOUSE TO HOUSE**  
**VISITATION**  
**CHAPEL CARS**

Forty Thousand Bibles Distributed Yearly

One Million and a Quarter Neglected Families Visited

Ten Thousand Baptist Sunday Schools Planted by Our Workers

Five Thousand Converted through the Chapel Cars

## OUR NEEDS

\$50,000 Yearly Needed for Bible Work

\$150,000 Yearly Needed for Colportage

\$100,000 Yearly Needed for Sunday School Work

A Contribution from Every Baptist Church as well as Sunday School  
Every Young People's Society Should Help this Work

Send for information to **R. G. SEYMOUR, D. D.**, Missionary and Bible Secretary, 1632 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia.

Unquestionably the best library ever offered  
by us at so low a figure

**THE CRESCENT**



**LIBRARY**

Interesting  
Elevating  
Healthful



Travels  
Romance  
History  
Temperance  
Missions

60 Volumes

\$25.00 Net

List Price, \$65.00

Fully Illustrated

Packed in a Three

Shelf Wooden Box

**American Baptist Publication Society**

Philadelphia, Boston, New York, Chicago, St. Louis, Dallas, Atlanta

## MINUTES.

The New River Baptist Association met in its Twenty-Sixth session with Fayetteville Church, Fayette, Ala., October 10, 1896, and, the opening sermon was preached at 11 o'clock by Elder A. N. Reeves, from Heb. 10:25. Theme: Necessity of Christian Association.

The sermon was good, and the assembly large. After preaching, the Association adjourned until 1:30 o'clock for refreshments, which were on the ground.

The delegates met at 1:30 o'clock, and the Body was called to order by the former Moderator, Elder G. W. Gravlee, who conducted the devotional exercises, after which, epistles from the churches of the Body were placed on the table, and brethren A. M. Nuckols and J. H. Newton were requested to read them.

The delegates' names were enrolled, and absentees marked thus\*.

*Philadelphia*—G. W. McGinnis, T. J. Garrison, T. N. Dobbs\*.

*Shepherd*—Eld. G. W. Gravlee, W. W. Gravlee and W. A. Vice.

*Bankston*—Eld. W. G. Baker\*, L. B. Harbin and J. B. Griffin.

*Fayetteville*—A. M. Nuckols, J. M. Stewart and W. B. Melton.

*Rocky Mount*—W. S. Bobo, J. F. Freeman and R. B. Walters.

*Pilgrim Rest*—Eld. F. Wilson, G. W. Freeman, P. M. Walker.

*Mount Pleasant*—J. R. Gladden, L. G. Gladden and R. M. Olive.

*Shady Grove*—J. R. Hall, Alex Ray\*, and A. M. Pinion\*.

*Mt. Lebanon*—Eld. J. F. Willis, J. E. Kirkland\*, J. H. Holliman.

*Pleasant Hill*—Eld. J. W. Hosmer, J. H. Newton, S. L. Raney.

*Pleasant Grove*—T. A. Palmer, J. W. Payne, J. M. Traywick\*.

*El Bethel*—W. J. Hassell, W. F. Jones and W. F. Gilpin.

*Salem*—W. B. Davis, G. R. Tyner and S. W. Clements.

*Concord*—T. J. Black, W. D. Doughty, W. Doughty, S. C. Lawless\*.

*Friendship*—J. H. Akin\*, R. R. White, Eld. W. J. Blankenship.

*Sipsey Valley*—D. T. Savage, M. I. Wright\*, P. T. Wright\*, and Zach Savage.

*Unity*—J. F. Reeves\*, M. E. Reeves\*, H. T. Shirley, H. P. Roberts\*.

*Macedonia*—Eld. J. E. Cox, W. M. Olive\* and S. C. Farquhar.

The Moderator, after the enrollment, ruled that all ministers (ordained), who were present, were entitled to seats as delegates.

### PERMANENT ORGANIZATION.

The Moderator requested Eld. Silas Waldrop and brother J. F. Ashcraft to act as tellers, and the delegates proceeded to elect—on permanent organization—a Moderator, resulting in the choice of G. W. Gravlee, Moderator; J. E. Cox, Clerk, and A. M. Nuckols, Corresponding Secretary.

Petitionary letters from newly constituted churches were called for, and Elder B. T. Sellman, Henry Moore and Thomas Lambert presented a letter from Rehoboth church, which was received into our union, and the hand of fellowship extended to delegates by the Moderator.

The Moderator appointed Committees, viz:

*On Devotion*: P. M. Walker, W. J. Hassell and the Pastor and Deacons of Fayetteville church.

*On Arrangement*: Elder J. S. Shirley, W. J. Blankenship, W. M. Olive, W. B. Melton and G. W. McGinnis.

*On Documents:* J. F. Holliman, Z. Savage, W. S. Bobo, F. Wilson and W. B. Davis.

*On Nominations:* W. B. Melton, W. F. Jones, W. F. Gilpin, W. D. Doughty and L. G. Gladden.

*On Finance:* J. E. Kirkland, L. B. Harbin, D. T. Savage and W. A. Vice.

*On Literature:* Elder G. H. White, J. M. Stewart, and Elder A. N. Reeves, A. M. Nuckols and Elder J. S. Shirley.

*On Temperance:* M. B. McCollum, S. W. Clements, W. M. Olive, W. S. Bobo, J. R. Gladden, A. N. Reeves.

(On motion, Eld. J. W. Akin was excused for the evening.)

*On Education:* A. N. Reeves, J. E. Cox, W. W. Gravlee, A. M. Nuckols and T. J. Garrison.

*On Missions:* J. H. Newton, W. F. Jones, G. W. McGinnis and J. W. Hosmer.

Correspondence from sister Associations was called for, and the following responded:

Yellow Creek: Elder S. B. Waldrop, S. V. Waldrop and J. W. Price—with letter, were welcomed.

Sipsey: J. F. Ashcraft, Eld. J. R. Barnett, J. M. Ashcraft and L. Brown—letter and Minutes.

North River: H. G. Amerson, Eld. J. L. Kimbrell and N. H. Harbin. All these brethren were cordially received.

On motion, a letter from Rev. J. E. Bell, of Texas, to the Association, was read and referred to a special committee, composed of J. W. Hosmer, Z. Savage, A. M. Nuckols, W. J. Blankenship and Jas. P. Dickinson.

Adjourned until 8 o'clock Monday morning.

#### SABBATH PROCEEDINGS.

Prayermeeting at 10 o'clock a. m., conducted by Eld. J. S. Shirley, and at 11 o'clock Eld. J. W. Hosmer—in the absence of Elder J. F. Willis (the appointee), preached an interesting sermon to an appreciative congregation. Text, Eph. 5:16. Theme: "Redeeming the time", after which a collection, amounting to \$10 51, for State, Home and Foreign Missions.

The Methodist and Baptist church houses were favored with large, attentive congregations to hear S. B. Waldrop, from the Yellow Creek Association, who preached in the M. E. house and A. N. Reeves in the latter—both at night.

MONDAY, 8:30 o'clock.—The delegates met pursuant to adjournment, and after religious exercises, conducted by the Moderator, the Body was called to order, and proceeded to business.

At the request of the Moderator, W. B. Melton read the Constitution, Articles of Faith and Rules of Decorum.

Adopted, report of Committee on Arrangement:

Your Committee make the following report: Appoint Committee on Documents; Committee on Nominations; Committee on Finance; Committee on Literature; Committee on Temperance; Committee on Education; Committee on Missions; Call for reports of District Meetings; Call for Correspondence; Return Correspondence; Hear Treasurer's report; Appoint a Treasurer; Committee on Sunday Schools; Committee on Ministerial Education; Miscellaneous Business; Read and correct Minutes.

J. S. SHIRLEY, Ch'n.

Returned correspondence as follows :

To Sipsey—S. W. Clements, W. B. Davis, Eld. Frank Wilson, W. B. Melton and G. W. Gravlee.

To Tuccaloosa—J. W. Hosmer, S. W. Clements, J. H. Newton.

To Yellow Creek—J. F. Willis, J. S. Shirley, J. F. Holliman and G. W. Freeman.

To North River—J. E. Cox, L. B. Harbin, A. N. Reeves, T. J. Garrison, W. S. Bobo, G. W. Gravlee and J. H. Newton.

To Harmony Grove—W. F. Gilpin, J. S. Shirley, J. E. Cox, A. N. Reeves, G. W. McGinnis and W. J. Blankenship.

To the State Baptist Convention—J. E. Cox and A. N. Reeves. Eight (\$8.96) dollars and ninety cents contributed to defray their expenses.

### REPORT OF DISTRICT MEETINGS.

The First District meeting will convene with Concord Church on Friday before the first Sabbath in September, 1897. Opening sermon by Elder J. E. Cox; J. S. Townsend, alternate.

1st Query: On Friday afternoon, Is the feetwashing, supper and sacramental the same? Opened by S. L. Raney and R. T. Beard.

2nd. What did Jesus mean in Matt. 12:43, 44 and 45? Opened by J. W. Hosmer and J. E. Cox.

3rd. What is Scriptural systematic giving? Opened by R. W. Woods and J. H. Newton.

4th. Who is responsible for getting up and disbursing the finances of the Church? Opened by W. M. Olive and G. H. White. Sermon at 11 o'clock Sunday by J. W. Hosmer.

J. E. COX, Mod'r.

S. W. CLEMENTS,  
Chairman Com.

W. F. NICHOLS, Clerk.

The Second District meeting will convene with Pilgrim Rest Church on Friday before the second Sunday in Sept., 1897, Eld. A. N. Reeves to preach the opening sermon; G. W. Gravlee, alternate.

1st Query: What is the Gospel, and who is responsible for its promulgation? Opened by J. F. Willis.

2nd. Should our church members or ministers engage in union meetings with other denominations? Opened by Zach Savage.

3rd. How do the graces of God first discover themselves in the heart of man? Opened by A. N. Reeves.

4th. What did the Savior mean in Matt. 6:6? Opened by J. F. Harbin.

5th. What is the Bible doctrine on sanctification? Opened by G. W. Freeman.

J. F. WILLIS, Mod'r.

W. B. SHIRLEY, Clerk.

The above reports were all, adopted.

The report of Committee on Documents, which was adopted :

We, your Committee on Documents beg leave to report, that we find only two items claiming the attention of the Association, viz: Two petitions to the Association, one from Bankston, and one from Pleasant Hill.

We recommend that this Body locate the place of the next session, and that the District Meetings locate the sessions in future.

J. F. HOLLIMAN, Ch'n.

Report on Education :

Your Committee on Education would respectfully direct the



attention of the Brotherhood of our churches to the importance of looking well into the moral character, as well as other qualifications of the teachers to whom they entrust their children. It is here the foundation of character and usefulness in future life are laid in the youth of our country. To those wishing to send their children abroad, to higher institutions of learning, we recommend the Howard College at East Lake, for their boys, and the Alabama Central at Tuscaloosa, for their daughters, also the Judson at Marion.

A. N. REEVES, Ch'n.

The report was adopted. On the adoption, however, the regular order of business was suspended, and, on motion, the Moderator was empowered to appoint a Committee to confer with a similar Committee from the Sipsey Association—after the adoption of the verbal reports from Chairman W. A. Graham of this and J. R. Barnett of Sipsey Association—investigate the advisability of establishing a Baptist High School at some central point in the bounds of these Bodies, and act in conjunction in locating place, and soliciting aid for the erection of building, &c. The Committee: W. A. Graham, chairman, Eld. J. P. Dickinson, W. D. Doughty, A. M. Nuckols and Elder W. G. Baker.

The report of Committee on Missions, on motion to adopt, was, after discussion, with much zeal and warmth, rejected.

On motion, adjourned for dinner, which was on the ground.

The Body reassembled pursuant to adjournment.

Report of Committee on Sabbath Schools read and adopted, viz:

Dear Brethren: As one of the Committee on Sunday School work, entrusted to us, I have done what I could in working up an interest in Sunday Schools. We held two conventions in this District—one in 1895 and one in 1896,—but the interest was not what we anticipated, yet it was not a failure. We have set apart Friday before the 4th Sunday in July, 1897, for another S. S. Convention.

J. H. NEWTON.

Committee on Ministerial Education:

Whereas, there has been no application to the Board for assistance, we have neither received nor disbursed any means.

A. M. NUCKOLS, Chm'n.

Many good speeches on Ministerial Education were made by several brethren, and the report, on motion, was adopted.

The Body, on motion, adjourned to meet at 8 o'clock Tuesday morning, with prayer by G. W. Freeman.

## TUESDAY.

The delegates met, and were called to order by the Moderator, and the congregation joined brother A. N. Reeves in prayer.

Committee on Literature reported as follows:

Your Committee would recommend to the churches of this Association, the following periodicals; The Alabama Baptist and The Foreign Mission Journal. We also recommend to our Sabbath Schools, the literature published by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention at Nashville, Tenn. Above all else, we admonish our brethren to study the teachings of the Holy Scriptures; for we learn that they are profitable for all things.

The subject of Literature was ably discussed, (Brother J. B. Madden of Calhoun County Association, aiding much in the discussion), and adopted.

## REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

Your Committee on Temperance, after investigating as best we could, in the limited time and facilities of acquiring a correct conception of the condition of the Temperance cause, report as follows: We suppose, brethren, it is hardly necessary to call your attention to the many sins, debaucheries, heart-aches, desolate homes, crowded prisons, and accumulated miseries growing out of this, the greatest enemy to the Church and the human family, Intemperance. We are glad to report that, among our brethren there is a very decided improvement in the cause of Temperance. The Baptists are taking a stand against and fighting the demon, strong drink, never known before in the history of the New River Association; for which we devoutly thank God, and admonish the brethren to continue the fight earnestly and prayerfully until the deadly monster, Intemperance, shall have been obliterated from the face of the earth. We are sorry to note that among the unprofessing people within the limits of our Association, and especially in communities where we have licensed saloons, Intemperance is greatly on the increase; and we attribute this sad state largely to the legalizing of the liquor traffic, and the insufficiency of our prohibition laws.

We recommend that this Body petition our Representatives and Senators in the next General Assembly of Alabama, to enact such legislation as will repeal the law commonly known as the "Porter Bill," which law makes it possible for a few people living, frequently, on less than one square mile of territory, in incorporated towns, to force saloons on the people of an entire county. And we further recommend such legislation as will prohibit the manufacture and sale of all intoxicating beverages; and we earnestly ask the co-operation of all Christian people and friends of Temperance, to aid us in securing this legislation. Respectfully submitted,

M. B. McCOLLUM, Chm'n.

After many good speeches the report was adopted, and, on motion, the Moderator was authorized to appoint a Committee to draft a memorial to the next General Assembly of Alabama, asking the repeal of the Porter Bill. Whereupon the Committee on Temperance was asked to do the work.

## REPORT ON NOMINATIONS.

Your Committee on Nominations would make the following report: We would recommend that the next session of this Body be held with Bankston Church, Elder W. J. Akin to preach the introductory sermon; Eld. G. W. Gravlee, alternate; Eld. J. P. Dickinson to preach at 11 o'clock on Sunday; Eld. A. N. Reeves, alternate.

Mission Board: Brothers M. B. McCollum, chairman; S. W. Clements, J. H. Newton, J. F. Holliman and J. R. Agerton.

On Ministerial Education: Eld. A. N. Reeves, chairman, J. M. Stewart, and Zach Savage.

W. B. MELTON, Chm'n.

Mission Board was empowered to employ a missionary in the bounds of the Association, and to co-operate with State Board.

On motion, adopted.

## REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

Your Committee on Finance have received for the objects inserted in this report, the following amounts, as specified: For Minutes, \$20.60; Associational purposes, \$10.00; for State Missions, \$12.83½; for Home Missions, \$7.43½; for Foreign Missions, \$14.43½.

On motion, the report was adopted.

The regular order of business was suspended, and, on motion, the following resolution was adopted.

Whereas, there is a misunderstanding in reference to our present situation as to our obligations to Eld. J. W. Akin, who was employed to labor as Missionary some years since; and whereas, there has been no settlement between this Body and Brother Akin,

Be it resolved, That the Mission Board be instructed to have settlement with Brother Akin, that all parties may be satisfied and that justice may be done.

#### TREASURER'S REPORT.

Received from ex-Treasurer, \$3 15; from Finance Committee. 1895, for Minutes, \$20.35; for Associational purposes, \$8.75; for Home Missions, \$10.15; for Foreign Missions, \$4.00. Total, \$46.40.

Disbursed as follows: Paid to J. E. Cox, for printing Minutes, \$20.35; paid to J. E. Cox, Clerk, \$10.00; paid to W. J. Akin, Missionary, \$4 00. Total, \$43.35. Balance on hand, \$12.05.

I now ask to be discharged.

W. B. MELTON, Treas'r.

Report was adopted. The Moderator appointed W. B. Melton. Treasurer.

The Committee to examine the letter of Rev. J. E. Bell, made the following report, which was adopted:

Your Committee to whom was referred brother J. E. Bell's letter, would recommend it be referred to the churches in our union, for their action. Also, that the pastors bring the matter (Articles of Faith) before their churches, and if possible, influence them to adopt Articles of Faith as set forth in Pendleton's Church Manual, and that such churches report the same at the next session of this Body.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. HOSMER, Chin'n.

#### MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS.

On motion, the amount of money in the hands of G. W. Gravlee, for the education of W. M. Olive, be expended for suitable books for said brother Olive, and that G. W. Gravlee, J. P. Dickinson and J. W. Hosmer, select such books—provided, however, brother Olive should fail to need it to pay for his tuition. A motion prevailed, that a surplus in the hands of Treasurer, amounting to \$3.15, be added to the amount contributed to defray expenses of the delegates appointed to the State Baptist Convention.

On motion, the Moderator was authorized to represent the Body in State Convention, should neither of the appointees go.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the pastors urge their churches in this Body, to place themselves on record in some manner, against their members using intoxicants as a beverage, and against the establishment of a saloon in their community, or in the county.

Resolved, That the New River Association earnestly and persistently protest against the appropriating of any of the public funds of the United States to Roman Catholics or other Ecclesiastical Bodies—by Congress—for the establishment of schools, or maintaining them.

Resolved, That the Clerk have as many Minutes printed in neat, good style, as the Minute fund will pay for, and postage on to the church, and that he receive for his services all of the Associational fund.



Resolution pertaining to the death of L. C. Shirley :

Whereas, God has removed, during this year, from our midst, bro. L. C. Shirley, and whereas, he was an efficient licensed minister in Concord church,

Therefore Resolved, That this Body feels the loss of such a worthy brother. his church has lost one of her best workers and brightest lights; the bereaved wife and daughter of our departed brother, have lost a loving husband and father, the community a sympathetic, kind neighbor, and Fayette county one of its truest, best citizens.

Resolved, That we bow in submission to this dispensation of God's providence, and commend to the sorrowing relatives, the grace of Jesus Christ for comfort.

J. W. HOSMER, Chm'n.

On motion, the Moderator and Clerk were authorized to sign their names officially, to the memorial asking the Legislature to enact a law repealing the "Porter Bill."

On motion, adjourned for refreshments.

Prayer by W. J. Blankenship.

Pursuant to adjournment the Body met, with prayer by the Moderator, and who declared the Association in order for business.

A motion was adopted to so change the resolution pertaining to the Clerk's fee, as to appropriate to him for his services, all of the Associational fund.

On motion, the following resolution, repealing an act of last session, making all ordained ministers delegates, by virtue of their office :

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Body that the New River Association is composed of the churches in our union, and that the meetings of this Body are representative, and that such members can only be named by the churches that are members in our union, and that our Constitution remain as printed in Minutes of 1895; and that the resolution and motions passed at last session are hereby rescinded.

#### CORRESPONDING LETTER.

The New River Association to the sister Associations with whom she corresponds, Greeting :

Dear Brethren:—We are now in session with a full delegation, and harmony has prevailed thus far. Your correspondents have been gladly received and seated with us.

The next session of this Body will be held with Bankston church, 11 miles east of Fayette, on Saturday before the second Sunday in October, 1897, when and where we hope to meet your correspondents who will give us their fraternal aid in the work of this Body.

A. M. NUCKOLS, Cor. Sec'y.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That this body tender to Fayetteville Church, and the entire community, our heartfelt thanks for their hospitality shown us, during our stay with them.

On motion, the Minutes were read, absentees marked—and approved. Eld. J. P. Dickinson led the congregation in prayer.

An appropriate hymn was sung, the parting hand given, and the Body adjourned.

G. W. GRAVLEE, Mod'r.

J. E. COX, Clerk.

Fayette, Alabama, October 14th, 1897.

## CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This Association shall be composed of members chosen by the different churches in our union, who, on producing letters, shall take their seats.

ART. 2. This Association shall be known by the name of the New River Baptist Association, which shall have the privilege to enact and carry out missionary purposes in all their bearings; yet so that churches and individual members are left free, and that giving or withholding shall not be a bar to fellowship.

ART. 3. To give churches the best advice she can in all matters of difficulty, and if the union be broken between any of the sister churches, to inquire into the cause of the breach and use her best endeavors to remove the difficulty; but if the breach cannot be repaired, to withdraw from any church or churches which she may look upon as being unsound in principle or immoral in practice until the same can be reclaimed.

ART. 4. The churches in our union shall transmit to every annual session of the Association a written communication, specifying the names of their delegates, their number in fellowship, baptized, received by letter, restored, dismissed, excommunicated and deceased since the last session of the Association, the state of their Sabbath Schools and prayer meetings, and the number of ordained ministers and licensed preachers, with their postoffices, which shall be read and minuted accordingly.

ART. 5. Every church in our union shall be entitled to representation in the following manner: Each church shall be entitled to send three delegates and no more. Any church failing to represent herself as above prescribed, shall state her reasons at the next session.

ART. 6. The Association thus formed, a majority of the members present shall choose by ballot a Moderator and Clerk, who shall serve one year.

ART. 7. Churches may be admitted into this union who petition by letter and delegates, and upon nomination, if found orthodox and orderly, shall be received by the Association, which shall be manifested by the Moderator giving the right hand of fellowship.

ART. 8. Every query sent up to the Association by any church in the union, shall be read and put to a vote by the Moderator whether it shall be debated, and if there be a majority for it, it shall be taken up and investigated, but if not it shall be withdrawn; provided, always, that those be first considered which effect the union of the churches.

ART. 9. Voting shall be confined exclusively to the body in all acts respecting their internal concerns.

ART. 10. The Association shall not adjourn any session until she shall have finished all business on hand, except in extraordinary cases.

ART. 11. The minutes of the Association shall be read and corrected, if necessary, and signed by the Moderator and Clerk before the session rise.

ART. 12. The Association shall, in all cases, be governed by a majority of the members present.

ART. 13. Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any session of the Association when a majority of its members present shall deem it necessary.

## ARTICLES OF FAITH.

1. We believe there is one only living and true God, and three persons in the God-head, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost.

2. We believe the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments are the Word of God, and the only rules of faith and practice.

3. We believe in the doctrine of human depravity; that it disables man from keeping the law for life, and that man's recovery and final salvation depends entirely upon the provision which Christ has made, and offered upon the condition of faith.

4. We believe in the doctrine of election through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth.

5. We believe that sinners are justified in the sight of God, only by the merits of Jesus Christ.

6. We believe the saints shall persevere in grace, and not one of them shall finally fall away.

7. We believe in the resurrection of the dead and general judgment, and that the joys of the righteous and the punishment of the wicked will be eternal.

#### *As For Gospel Order.*

1. We believe that the visible church of Christ is a congregation of baptized believers who have gained Christian fellowship with each other, and have given themselves up to the Lord, and one another, and have agreed to keep up a godly discipline according to the rules of the gospel.

2. We believe that Jesus Christ is the great head of the church, and only law giver, and that the government is with the Body, and is the privilege of each individual: and that the discipline of the church is intended for the reclaiming of the Christian who may be disorderly either in principle or practice, and must be faithfully kept up for God's glory and unity of the churches.

3. We believe that baptism and the Lord's Supper are ordinances of Jesus Christ, and that true believers are the only proper subjects, and conscientiously do believe the true mode of baptism is immersion.

4. We believe that none have the right to administer the ordinances but ministers of the Gospel regularly ordained to that office.

6. We believe that none but those regularly baptized have a right to participate in the Lord's Supper.

#### **RULES OF DECORUM.**

1. The Association shall be opened and closed by prayer.

2. To expedite business, committees may be appointed at the discretion of the Association.

3. The Moderator shall be deemed judge of order, and shall have the right to call to order at any time, and any brother not satisfied with his decision on any point of order, may appeal to the Association, on the same day, but at no other time.

4. Every motion made and seconded shall come under the consideration of the Association, except withdrawn by him who made it.

5. Every case taken up by the Association shall be decided or withdrawn before another shall be offered.

6. Every person who shall speak in debate shall rise from his seat and address the Moderator and not be interrupted while speaking, unless he depart from the subject, or use words of personal reflection.

7. The Moderator when addressed for leave to speak, shall signify the right of the applicant by naming him or otherwise.

8. No person shall speak more than twice on the same subject, without leave of the Association.

9. No member shall be tolerated in any practice which tends to interrupt public speaking.

10. Any person wishing to retire shall obtain permission from the Moderator.

11. The Moderator shall give the casting vote, and shall be entitled

to the same privilege of speaking as any other member, provided he appoint another to his seat during the time.

12 The appellation of Brother shall be used in our address one to another.

13. The names of delegates shall be called as often as the Association may direct.

14. Any member violating the above rules may be reproved as the Association thinks proper, only on the day the offense shall have occurred.

# STATISTICAL TABLE.

Churches.	Pastors.	Postoffice.	Foreign Miss'n	Home Mission	Ass'n'l Fund	Minute Fund	Total	Died	Lettered	Excluded	Restored	Received by L.	Baptized	T. Meetings
Bankston,	J. E. Cox,	Fayette,	1 60	1 50	25 50	47 1	1	6	2	2	5	9	5	4
Macedonia,	F. Wilson,	Fayette,	1 00	50 50	50 50	32	2	4	4	4	7	1	7	4
Mc. Pleasant,	W. J. Akin,	Monro,	2 70	50 50	50 50	109 1	1	4	2	13	8	13	8	3
Philadelphia,	W. G. Baker,	Bankston,		50 50	50 50	47 1	5	5	1	2	2	2	2	3
Pleasant Hill,	J. W. Hosmer,	Fayette,		75 50	25 50	63	6	6	1	2	1	1	1	4
Pleasant Grove	W. J. Akin,	Ballard,		00 25	00 25	42 1	1	10	1	1	1	8	8	1
Salem,	L. L. Collins,	New Lexington		00 50	00 50	72 1	1	1			3	9	9	3
Shady Grove,	G. H. White,	Bankston,		00 50	00 50	57 1						4	4	2
Rehoboth,	B. T. Selman,	New River,		25 25	25 25	9								
2nd Dist.														
Concord,	I. L. Collins,	Bridge,	33	50 50	20 50	120 1	3	13		2	5	2	5	4
ElBethel,	A. N. Reeves,	Ballard,	33	50 50	33 33	43 1	2	6		2	2	7	7	1
Fayetteville,	J. P. Dickinson,	Fayette,	40	50 50	50 50	71 1	1	1		4	4	4	4	3
Friendship,	W. J. Akin,	Ballard,		50 50	50 50	95 1	2	21		3	4	15	15	3
Mc. Lebanon,	J. F. Willis,	Fayette,		75 50	2 50	53	1	7		4	6	6	6	4
Pilgrim Rest,	F. Wilson,	Illico,		25 50	25 50	91 1	2	15						
Rocky Mount,	R. Wilson,	Clavin,		75 50	75 50	67	3	3						
Shepherd,	J. M. Chism,	Newtownville		50 50	50 50	53 1	4	4				1	1	1
Slipsey Valley,	J. W. Hosmer,	New onville		40 50	40 50	28	1	1						
Unity,	A. N. Reeves,	Ballard,		50 50	50 50	81 1	8	8						4

*Ordained Ministers:* Frank Wilson, W. G. Baker, G. H. White, G. W. Gravlee, J. P. Dickinson, J. S. Shirley, A. N. Reeves, J. E. Cox, J. F. Willis, J. W. Hosmer, W. J. Akin, W. J. Blankenship, and J. J. Patterson.

*Licensed Ministers:* J. W. Graham, W. M. Olive, I. B. Davis, J. L. Harbin, Jno. Howard, G. W. Freeman, W. F. Gilpin, G. W. McGinnis, T. J. Garrison, S. L. Rainey.

# Our Musical Quartet

THE BAPTIST HYMNAL }  
 OR } For Churches  
 THE CORONATION HYMNAL }  
 SELECT GEMS. For Prayer Meetings  
 SONGS OF THE KINGDOM. For Young People's Societies  
 SONGS TRIED AND PROVED. For the Sunday School

They have been received with great favor throughout the country, and are open for examination with a view to future engagements.

While each member of the Quartet has its specialty as indicated above, they can be interchangeably used according to the taste of the user. Especially is this true of "Select Gems," "Songs of the Kingdom," and "Songs Tried and Proved."

Their services can be secured at the following rates:

The Baptist Hymnal. } Cloth Covers, 75 cents each.  
 or } Coronation Hymnal, in boards, 60 cents.  
 The Coronation Hymnal } The Baptist Hymnal, word edition, 40 cents.  
 Select Gems. } Cloth, 35 cents; boards, 25 cents, postpaid.  
 Songs of the Kingdom. } Single Copies, 30 cents; by mail, 35 cents. In lots of 20 or more, 25 cents each.  
 Songs Tried and Proved. } Single Copies, 30 cents; by mail, 35 cents. In lots of 20 or more, 25 cents each.

Any member of our Quartet will be glad to visit the pastor or leader or superintendent, without charge, if it is distinctly stated that it is with a view to an engagement.

## NEW DIRECTORY FOR BAPTIST CHURCHES

By EDWARD T. HISCOX, D. D.

604 Pages. PRICE, \$1.50

All about Baptist principles and practices; about church government; rules of order for church business meetings; and almost everything else of matters pertaining to Baptists in their church relations.

EVERY BAPTIST OUGHT TO OBTAIN IT

American Baptist Publication Society.

PHILADELPHIA: 1420 Chestnut St.;

BOSTON: 256 Washington St.;

ST. LOUIS: 1109 Olive St.;

NEW YORK: 182 Fifth Ave.;

DALLAS: 279 Elm St.;

CHICAGO: 177 Wabash Ave.;

ATLANTA: 98 Whitehall St.



# Baptist Periodicals

**WHY USE THEM ?** For the same reason that Baptist churches prefer Baptist pastors and Baptist Sunday-schools prefer Baptist superintendents and teachers. Lesson helps are instructors, and should be in harmony with the teachings of the pulpit and the Sunday-school. The helps of the Publication Society are true to Baptist principles. They are superior to all others in their **make-up, grading, and contents, and therefore cheaper.**

**THEN WHY NOT TAKE THEM ?**

## PRICES

### LESSON HELPS.

Club prices of five or more copies to one address  
Price per quarter. Price per year

Baptist Superintendent.....	6¼ cen s.	.....	25 cents.
Baptist Teacher.....	12½ "	.....	50 "
Senior Quarterly.....	5 "	.....	20 "
Advanced Quarterly.....	2¼ "	.....	9 "
Intermediate Quarterly.....	2¼ "	.....	9 "
Primary Quarterly.....	2¼ "	.....	9 "
Picture Lessons.....	3 "	.....	12 "
Bible Lessons.....	1 "	.....	4 "

### ILLUSTRATED PAPERS

Our Young People.....	10 cents.	.....	40 cents.
Young Reaper, Monthly.....	2½ "	.....	10 "
" " Fortnightly.....	5 "	.....	20 "
Sunlight, Monthly.....	2½ "	.....	10 "
" " Fortnightly.....	5 "	.....	20 "
Our Little Ones.....	6¼ "	.....	25 "
Bible Lesson Pictures.....	\$1.00 "	.....	\$4.00

Your purchases will help the Society to send out colporters, distribute the Bible to the needy, establish new Sunday-schools, and keep the chapel cars in motion.

## REDUCTION IN PRICE

Beginning with next year, January 1, 1897, the Society will reduce the prices of their periodicals from 12 to 25 per cent. below the prices given above.

**American Baptist Publication Society**